

11 January 2016

Dear Mr. Chehadé and Mr. Schneider;

Re: CCT Review Team Selection

We are writing to request that you make an additional appointment to the CCT Review Team of Cecilia Lee Smith to provide more gender diversity, as well as critical subject matter expertise representing a multinational, brand, new gTLD registry/applicant. Smith was endorsed by the Business Constituency and Commercial Stakeholder Group as we believed it was imperative that the CCT Review Team have highly qualified experts AND gender diversity.

As noted in GNSO Council Chair, James Bladel's, December 18th, 2015 correspondence regarding the CCT Review, the Business Constituency (along with other GNSO groups) undertook a lengthy and considered process to decide on applicant endorsements, and gender diversity was an important part of this process. The BC was dismayed to see that this imperative was largely ignored in your selection of review team members. From a field of highly qualified candidates, including 13 female applicants, you chose only 3 women for this 15-member team. We think you can, and should, do better to ensure women are well represented on the CCT Review Team.

Gender diversity is an important commitment of the BC and its member companies – a commitment that ICANN claims to share. Gender diversity is good for our products, for our businesses, for ICANN, and for the Internet. It also is an essential building block in any multistakeholder process. Diversity of thought matters because we are helping to build an Internet that will serve over 7 billion people around the world, roughly half of whom are women. It's vital for us to have a broad range of perspectives, including people of different genders and races. Having a diverse membership in the CCT Review, as well as other ICANN groups, is not only the right thing to do – it's the smart thing to do to help advance ICANN's mission.

We ask that you reconsider the 3 of 15 ratio of the CCT Review Team and take this opportunity to act on ICANN's commitment to gender diversity. We think Smith is the right choice to help rectify this problem.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

The Commercial and Business Users Constituency

CC: Mr. Steve Crocker and ICANN Board